

With regard to the proposals to allocate to amateurs spectrum in the bands from 5.25-5.4 MHz and the proposed LF allocation near 136 KHz, I fully support the Commission in it's intent of enhancing the ability of amateur operators to realize the purposes of the service through this change in rules.

The new band, commonly referred to as "60 meters" would certainly fill a hole in the current available spectrum which often has the characteristic problem of neither 40 nor 80 meters being suitable for reliable communications. Particularly in the current circumstance of heightened potential for localized emergencies that may require amateurs to respond to the need for reliable communications it seems wise to allocate spectrum in the HF to fill that hole.

I would suggest that since this is intended as a domestic (US only) allocation that a limit of 500W output be imposed on this band with the proviso that in the event that a declaration of communications emergency is issued that stations actually engaged in handling traffic related to that be authorized to go to 1,500W if necessary. This would allow for effective routine use of the band while limiting the potential for interference to non-US users of the spectrum as well as allowing for maximum utility in the case of actual emergency related traffic.

I would also suggest that a CW/Digital sub band be carved out for the lower 50 KHz of the band (5.25-5.3 KHz). It is to be anticipated that many operators in an emergency would be passing traffic on CW and as we move forward a lot of ops will be using one or another of the digital modes. Some of these, PSK-31, for example, are particularly effective in poor band conditions and setting aside a slice of the band to encourage continued growth of these modes seems a wise course to follow.

With regard to the LF proposal, I would only comment that the proposed maximum bandwidth of a signal (100 Hz) would seem to preclude using any modes other than CW or something akin to PSK-31. I realize that in a sliver of spectrum this narrow it may be necessary to so limit signals, and I would suggest that since one of the main purposes for which a Low Frequency band is proposed is to allow amateurs to experiment in this area the objective might be better met by either increasing the size of this sliver band sufficiently to allow for some phone and possibly higher speed digital modes, or acting favorably on proposals for a 30 KHz wide LF band between 160 KHz and 190 KHz.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these proposals.

Sincerely, Bruce Moyer - KI8GR